



The Hour

"keeps up with Hitler to the minute"

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Number 20

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VIRGINIA COGSWELL ANXIOUS TO TESTIFY AGAINST KUHN

Ready to Expose Many Secret Doings of the Bund's Leader

Should Fritz Kuhn escape conviction on embezzlement charges currently being heard against him in New York, it will not be because Virginia Cogswell, the much-married ex-girl-friend of the Bundesfuehrer, refused to testify against him. Many persons familiar with the situation have been expressing surprise at the District Attorney's statements that he would not ask Mrs. Cogswell to take the stand, in spite of statements frequently credited to her that she "would take the stand against Kuhn at any time."

Reveals Death Threats

Mrs. Cogswell is at present residing under an assumed name in a leading New York hotel. A reporter for The Hour has discovered the hideout, and succeeded in interviewing Mrs. Cogswell. Asked by the reporter if she would be a witness for the prosecution, Mrs. Cogswell replied that no word had been relayed to her that she would be used, although she had given "loads of secret testimony to Dewey's assistants preparing the case."

Mrs. Cogswell then proceeded to grant The Hour the first exclusive interview on the subject of her relationship with Kuhn. She said:

"I am anxious to testify against Kuhn, not because he's Fritz Kuhn, but because the ideology of bigotry and intolerance which he represents is in direct antipathy to everything democratic. I am willing to stand up and tell what I know. I am willing to do this even in the face of violent threats from mysterious sources that I would meet certain death if I told what I knew. Regardless of what people might say about my credibility, about the inability of my testi-

mony to stand up in view of my unfortunate marital experiences, the documentary evidence which I have collected against Kuhn and his fascist henchmen is concrete enough."

Calls Kuhn's Activities Dangerous

Mrs. Cogswell told our reporter that over 300 dictaphone recordings had been made of her conversations with Kuhn in various hotels around New York. By these records, according to Mrs. Cogswell, Kuhn's financial machinations and his ties with certain Wall Street personages are clearly exposed. "Records don't lie," she added.

The relationship between Kuhn and Mrs. Cogswell extended over a period of time from the summer of 1937 to the spring of 1939. To quote her: "It was shortly after I met Kuhn that I learned the dangerous character of his activities. It was then that I decided that Kuhn must be exposed if bigotry and intolerance are to be kept out of this country. Contrary to the popular belief, Fritz Kuhn never supported me. He did, however, spend enough money to show that he had other sources of income besides his reputed salary from the Bund of \$50 per week. Also, Kuhn never told me that he was married and the father of two children. He said that the woman claiming to be his wife was actually the wife of another leading member of the Bund. Nevertheless, I have learned that the man in question is happily married to yet another woman, not the woman disclaimed by Kuhn."

Will Divulge Kuhn's Contempt for His Catholic Friends

Mrs. Cogswell is at present testifying before the federal authorities in New York on Kuhn's connections and affairs; the inquiry is being conducted in an effort to learn of possible violations of the income-tax law or other offenses. She refused to state specifically what fields of Kuhn's activities are being probed by the federal investigators, but assured The Hour that the net result would be sensational and far reaching. She said:

"At last I hope to be able to prove Kuhn's connections with American and foreign quarters, and this should materially aid the struggle against bigotry and anti-Semitism. If only certain Catholics knew what Kuhn and the Bund think and say of them behind their backs, the followers of Father Coughlin would be more cautious about cooperating with Kuhn."

* * * * *

FASCIST ZOLL WILL BE TRIED THIS MONTH

Faces Charges of Extortion in Connection
with Coughlinite Pickets

The Hour learns that Allen Zoll, former leader in the activities of New York's Coughlinites, has been quietly attempting in various ways to halt his trial, which is scheduled to be heard later this month. Zoll was arrested early in July on the charge of attempting to extort \$7,500 from Donald Flamm, head of the radio station WMCA. When apprehended, Zoll was

in possession of \$200 in marked bills handed to him by Flamm, whom Zoll had approached with an offer to withdraw the Coughlinite picket line in what Flamm described as an attempt at blackmail. Lately, in his endeavor to escape the charges and have the indictment quashed, Zoll has been bringing to the office of the New York County prosecutor a series of affidavits testifying to his "good character." So far he has been met with a cold shoulder.

It is learned that the prosecution has much more evidence about Zoll's activities than it had at the time of his arrest. This includes the data on his mysterious deals with certain New York hotels, transacted while Zoll ran or helped run several "super-patriotic" and pro-fascist groups. His ties with those borderline organizations will be bared in court later this month.

As a leading Coughlinite in New York, Zoll is remembered not only in connection with the picket lines around Station WMCA, but also as one of the chief moving spirits during the first big Coughlinite rally held in the Manhattan Opera House on December 15, 1938. It was this rally that had served as an opening signal to the ensuing wave of street brawls and attacks upon the Jews and other non-Coughlinites in the streets of New York.

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McWILLIAMS CHALLENGES LAW "TO COME AND GET US"

Chief of Fascist Mobilizers Defies Financial and Legal Troubles

In a blare of defiance let loose during a meeting at Ebling's Casino in the Bronx on Monday, November 13, Joseph E. McWilliams, the chieftain of the fascist Christian Mobilizers, dared all the law-enforcing agencies of the nation "to come and get us." Addressing himself to a handful of his followers present in the hall, McWilliams shouted: "We are a revolutionary movement, and we will continue to be one until our work is done, until we have a million members in every city and town. What we want is a country free from all Republicans and Democrats! What we want is a nationalist America!"

Publication Suspended

The spirit of challenge is in part due to the financial and other troubles with which the Christian Mobilizers have recently met. The money lately coming into the fascist movement in New York (see The Hour for November 4) found its way into other groups of the Christian Front, leaving McWilliams' organization to face bad weather all alone. Because of the dearth of funds, publication of the Christian Mobilizer has been stopped, although the Mobilizers claim it has been merely "suspended temporarily, pending reorganization." Subscribers and advertisers, many of whom paid months in advance, are complaining bitterly, and it is known that some are planning to take legal action unless restitution is made. Prospects for restitution, however, are remote, inasmuch as the

editor-publisher of the publication, Edward Adrian, is so short of money that in the past few weeks he has resorted to frequent borrowing in order to meet immediate needs.

Evicted from Headquarters

To cap the troubles, the Mobilizers have been evicted from their headquarters at 3196 Third Avenue, the Bronx. The reason given by the evictors is a combination of rowdiness, damage to property, and the presence of couples till late hours in what was alleged to be a business office. A final act of vandalism, it is learned, was the tearing down of the fireplace in the main room just before the Mobilizers' ousting.

So low are the Mobilizers' fortunes, so bad is the publicity recently given to some of the men's criminal records (see The Hour for November 11), that many of the members have been staying away from the meetings and in fact do not any longer consider themselves members. The organization is rumored to be "on the skids." In fascist circles of New York it is said that the Mobilizers will be "demobilized" by Christmas.

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PELLEY'S ARREST CALLED FOR IN SHERIFF'S CIRCULAR

Head of Silver Shirts Sought by Asheville, N. C., Authorities
-- Violation of Several Laws Charged in the Circular

A photostatic copy of the "Wanted" circular, issued by Sheriff Laurence E. Brown of Asheville, North Carolina, for the arrest of William Dudley Pelley, head of the Silver Shirts of America, has reached the office of The Hour. The circular carries a photograph of the goateed fuhrer, and reads:

WANTED

William Dudley Pelley

Description

Age, approximately fifty years; height, five feet, seven inches; weight, 130 pounds; has black hair mixed with gray; heavy eyebrows; wears mustache and a vandyke; has dark gray eyes, very penetrating; has straight Roman nose; wears nose glasses; dresses neatly; distinguished looking; good talker highly educated; interested in phisic research.

Capias has been issued by the Judge of the Superior Court of Buncombe County for the arrest of the above-named party for sentence on conviction of felony, making fraudulent representation, and also for violating the terms of a suspended sentence on another charge by failing to remain of good behavior, and by engaging in, among other things, UN-AMERICAN activities.

Arrost and notify

LAURENCE E. BROWN, Sheriff
Asheville, N.C.

The suspended sentence (from one to two years) was for violation of the North Carolina securities laws by the notorious fascist. During a

federal investigation of Pelley's finances, made public last August, it was shown that five years ago the little fuehrer of North Carolina had gone through a bankruptcy with a loss of \$35,000 to \$40,000 sustained by his creditors and stockholders; and that from September 1937 to July 1939 Pelley cashed personally \$69,000 in money orders, of which the investigators could trace only about \$1,300 deposited to the bank account of the Pelley-run Skyland Press. Pelley failed to account for the rest of the money. The federal investigators state that some of his account books have been destroyed, and that for the entire period 1934-38 Pelley paid in personal income tax the total sum of \$216.36

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GERALD SMITH'S FASCIST STAR ON THE RISE

Gains Support from Unexpected Quarters

DETROIT, November 15 (Special to The Hour)--Detroit, in spite of the recent election of the progressive Edward Joffries to the post of Mayor, is the scene of a growing fascist movement. Father Coughlin, Rev. Norris, and Gerald L. K. Smith head the parade of reaction. The Black Legion is again stirring, and the Ku Klux Klan is moving back with enthusiasm into its old stamping grounds. On Thursday, November 9, an important meeting of the Kluxers took place in the city of cars. One of the chief Kleagles felt the occasion auspicious enough and the future in Detroit sufficiently promising to honor the meeting with his presence.

Coughlin Eclipsed by Smith

Gerald L. K. Smith appears to be rapidly gaining the inside track in the race to become the city's Fuehrer. Father Coughlin, who for some time past has been the dominant figure among the Detroit fascists, seems to be losing his popularity. Apparently he realizes it, as witness, for example, the frantic tone adopted by him of late in his radio talks and in Social Justice. Definitely on the defensive, vehemently denying his affiliations, he is indiscriminately striking right and (especially) left, mostly at ghostly enemies.

Smith's star is, however, on the rise. At his last meeting, held on November 2 in Olympia Hall, 18,000 persons crammed the auditorium. John McGillis, chief of the Knights of Columbus, and Hoinie Pickert, chief of police, were prominently displayed on the speakers' platform. There was some booing, but not much -- Smith kept the situation well in hand, using his customary and considerable histrionic ability to great advantage.

Even the "nicest" people, who have found Coughlin a bit too crude, are swinging to Smith's banner. In fact, some persons who should be most opposed to Gerald L. K., have been drawn by his hypnotic voice. After all, his supporters proclaim, he is not anti-Semitic, he hasn't said one anti-Semitic word -- at least not for some time. All he does, they assert, is attack the radicals. Smith has admitted his allegiance to the Silver Shirts. And Smith's attitude toward American labor problems is a matter of notorious record. But his followers neatly overlook (or openly approve) these facts. Gerald L. K. Smith has become "respectable." He is the man to watch in Detroit.

